

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
FOR CONSUL GENERAL AND STAFF

FOR CONSUL GENERAL

BEGIN QUOTE: DEAR PETE: I KNOW THAT YOU IN THE HOLY LAND WHO HAVE LABORED SO ASSIDUOUSLY IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS. THERE IS IRONY IN THE FACT THAT ISRAEL, THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE SPIRITUAL VALUES OF OUR CIVILIZATION, SHOULD BE THE ARENA IN WHICH THE PURSUIT OF PEACE IS MOST DEMANDING. WITH LIMITED RESOURCES YOU AND YOUR DEDICATED STAFF HAVE ASSISTED IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR DIPLOMACY ENERGETICALLY AND SKILLFULLY ON EACH OF THE NUMEROUS OCCASIONS THE SECRETARY AND MEMBERS OF THIS BUREAU HAVE BEEN IN YOUR MIDST. AS THIS YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE, WE IN NEA WISH FIRST TO REGISTER OUR APPRECIATION OF THE HIGH PROFESSIONALISM YOU HAVE SHOWN, AND SECOND, TO THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROUS HOSPITALITY AND PERSONAL SUPPORT WHICH SUSTAINED US DURING THESE MANY VISITS.

AS I COMMEND THE CONSULATE GENERAL ON THE EXCELLENCE OF ITS EFFORTS OVER THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, I SEND YOU AND ALL MEM-
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BERS OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL STAFF MY BEST WISHES FOR PEACE

AND HAPPINESS THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON AND THROUGHOUT THE
NEW YEAR. SINCERELY, ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR. END QUOTE.
KISSINGER

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